ISSN 1059-1249

The Magic Lantern Gazette

Volume 24, Number 2 Summer 2012

The Magic Lantern Society of
the United States and Canada

www.magiclanternsociety.org

Recollections of Summer

One picture more before I close
Fond Memory's fast **dissolving views**;
One picture more before I lose
The radiant outlines as they rose.

'Tis evening, and we leave the porch,
And for the hundredth time admire
The Rhododendron's cones of fire
Rise round the tree, like torch o'er torch.

"Recollections," *Littell's Living Age*, March 29, 1851

This summer, our society held it's 15th international convention in Tacoma, Washington. Those who attended were able to enjoy a delightfully varied and entertaining program, with an excellent blend of research talks and old-fashioned magic lantern shows. This issue of the *Gazette* provides a brief summary of the proceedings. In the interest of getting this issue of the *Gazette* out during the correct season, I have limited it to the convention summary and have reserved other material for the next issue. Consequently, this issue is slightly shorter than most recent issues. For those who were unable to travel to Tacoma for the meeting, this summary will provide a short but imperfect impression of the meeting. The society owes a great debt to the many members of the Northwest Group, who organized and hosted the convention for all to enjoy. Special thanks to Larry Cederblom, who served as convention chairman and, as usual, provided all sorts of wonderful posters and other graphics for the meeting.

Planning already is underway for the next convention in 2014, which will be held in the Boston area. Dick Balzer will be looking for suitable venues, and those of us in the Northeast will help with organizing the meeting and planning an interesting program. Suggestions for meeting improvements or ideas for new kinds of presentations can be sent to Dick, to President Debbie Borton, or to me.

Boston has many attractions, including important historical sites and one of the country's best art museums, as well as a great variety of interesting restaurants. My only regret from the Tacoma meeting is that I did not schedule enough time to see all of the interesting museums and other attractions in the city of Tacoma. It always seems to be difficult to squeeze in an extra day for such activities when traveling to a new city.

I hope to begin working on the Fall issue of the Gazette soon, although September promises to be an exceptional busy month at work. I already have some material for articles, as well as some new academic research articles to discuss on the Research Page. Don't forget to check out the complete bibliography of research articles related to the magic lantern at: http://www.zotero.org/groups/magic_lantern_research_group.

As always, I am eager to receive long or short articles on aspects of magic lantern history and culture for future issues of the *Gazette*. So if you are doing research on some interesting topic, please keep our journal in mind as a place to publish your work.

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A passenger arriving at Union Station in Tacoma.
Photo by K. D. Wells.

15th International Convention of the Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada

Convention Summary

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The Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada held its 15th International Convention in Tacoma, Washington, from June 21 through June 24, 2012. With an overall theme of "Projecting the Past into the Future," we had one of the most varied and interesting programs of any recent convention. The Northwest Group of the society hosted and organized the convention, which took place in a very nice hotel convention center and other venues such as an authentic Knights of Pythias Hall and the Washington History Museum. The program provided a nice balance of serious research talks and entertaining magic lantern shows, all presented with a considerable degree of professionalism. As with many of our conventions, the official meeting banquet was topped off with another great performance from Terry Borton and the American Magic Lantern Theater, a show that attracted quite a few members of the general public.

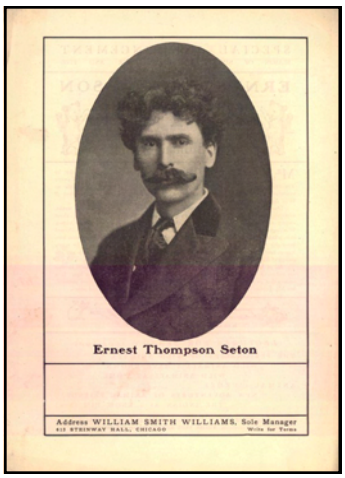
Society President Debbie Borton on the first day of the convention, with one of Larry Cederblom's beautiful posters. Debbie was unanimously elected for a second two-year term as President, as were Vice President Larry Cederblom and Secretary/Treasurer Ron Easterday.

Society members who arrived on the first day were able to catch up with old friends and meet new members at the afternoon opening reception.

Society Vice President and Convention Chairman Larry Cederblom (left) chatting with Gart Westerhout at the opening reception. Gart had the distinction of having traveled the longest distance to the convention, having come all the way from Japan.

On Friday, the program got off to a great start with a very interesting research talk by **Terry Borton** on "200 Eminent American Lanternists." His talk focused on lecturers who made a living as professionals giving talks with lantern slides. His talk showed that lantern slides cannot be considered merely pre-cinema artifacts. Indeed, the popularity of illustrated lantern-slide lectures seems to have increased after the advent of the movies and continued well in the first several decades of the 20th century. Most of these lectures were educational and exemplified the vogue for self-improvement and education that characterized the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Terry's talk made use of an enormous collection of material at the University of Iowa

documenting the Redpath Chautauqua Circuit (digital images of programs and other materials from the collection are available on the Library of Congress "Traveling Culture" webpage [http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/chautauqua/]). The Chautauqua programs included all manner of educational presentations and entertainment shows. Terry found that about 15% involved some sort of lecture illustrated with lantern slides. Nearly all of the lecturers were men, with travel lectures accounting for about half of all lectures presented. The lecturers included some obscure figures who are little known today, as well as nationally known individuals, such as the naturalist Ernest Thompson Seton, the author of many popular animal stories. Overall, an estimated 4-8 million people attended lantern-slide lectures just on this one Chautauqua Circuit, making them the most viewed magic lantern shows in American history.



Brochure for illustrated lectures on animals given by Ernest Thompson Seton on the 1904-5 Chautauqua Circuit. The *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, quoted in the brochure, said of his lectures, "The theater was in total darkness, save for the white patch of light thrown upon the picture screen by the stereopticon." Library of Congress.

Next up on the program was a presentation by **Gart Westerhout** on "When Irish Eyes are Smiling," with many images of Bamforth song postcards of Irish songs from 1900 to 1920, accompanied in some cases by old recordings of the songs. Many of the postcards were exact copies of the photographs made into lantern slides. With his wonderful Irish tenor voice, Gart also treated us to several renditions of the old Irish songs, accompanied by lantern slides of the songs. Many of the songs were sentimental recollections of the Irish homeland by Irish emigrants who ended up in other parts of the world, or told of soldiers gone to war while dreaming of home and loved ones left behind: "I'll Take you Home Again, Kathleen," "Don't Forget Old Ireland," "Ireland, the Land of my Birth," "Your Dear Old Dad was Irish," "Come Back to Erin," and many others.

I'LL TAKE YOU HOME AGAIN, KATHLEEN. No. 2.
(REFRAIN.)
Oh! I will take you back, Kathleen,
To where your heart will feel no pain;
And when the fields are fresh and green,
I'll take you to your home again.
BAMFORTH (Copyright).

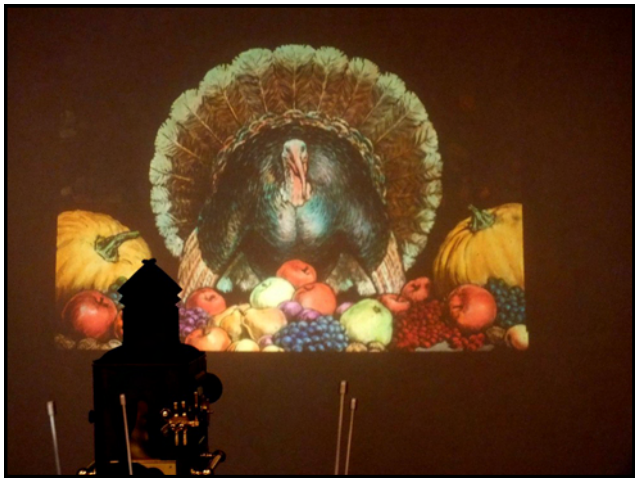
Bamforth postcard of "I'll Take you Home Again, Kathleeen." From ITMA, Irish Traditional Music Archive (http://www.itma.ie/digitallibrary/images-all/).

One of the unexpected treats of the whole convention was the next presentation by **Jackie Fisher and Lynne Martin**, "Williams Family Traveling Picture Show." Using the diary of a great grandmother, they traced the travels of the Williams family as they crisscrossed the Midwest in a horse-drawn wagon, giving magic lantern shows in tiny churches and one-room schoolhouses in small towns in Kansas, Oklahoma, and other states. The presenters did a great job of digging out old postcards and other photographs of some of the venues when the shows were given, as well as personal family photos. The result was a fabulous presentation that really brought to life a little-known aspect of magic lantern culture, an amateur touring magic lantern show involving a whole family. Who knows how many other families made similar journeys that have now been forgotten? Jackie and Lynne's excellent presentation was awarded the Joe Koch Memorial Historical Award.

During the lunch period on the first day of the convention, there were two short discussion sections. **Kentwood Wells** demonstrated the use of the Zotero Magic Lantern Research Group (find this by entering "Zotero Magic Lantern" into Google). This is a shared bibliographical and research resource that includes the following: (1) links to all of the major webpages related to magic lanterns, organized by categories, such as "Collector's Webpages" and "Magic Lantern History;" (2) links to the webpage at the San Diego State University Library that houses all back issues of *The Magic Lantern Gazette* and its predecessors back to 1979; (3) links to all online digital books relating to the magic lantern, mostly through Google Books, from the 17th century to the present; (4) a comprehensive bibliography of scholarly research articles on magic lanterns and related topics, mostly from the 1970s to the present. This is continuously updated as new articles are published.

Terry Borton then led a discussion of "Keys to Successful Showmanship," with an emphasis on topics such as how to put together a script for a group of slides that lacks a reading, and tricks for engaging the audience when unexpected events occur, such as a projector bulb burning out. He also talked about ways to overcome stage fright and how to encourage the audience to actively participate in the show, rather than simply talking to the audience.

The first afternoon presentation was by **Bob and Sue Hall**, who always have a unique interpretation of a magic lantern show. This one, entitled "Projecting from the Rear," involved rear screen projection of very unusual slides that were made for the Master Brenograph projector for use in movie theaters. Some served as backdrops, while others showed colorful designs. The show was enhanced by "actors" drafted by the Hall to perform scenes, such as a couple playing cards in front of a slide showing playing cards. Music was added by **Joanna Chesnut** on the hurdy-gurdy.



Brenograph slide with a Thanksgiving theme from Bob and Sue Hall's show. It was projected by a lantern behind the screen. Photo by K. D. Wells.

Bob Hall with Joanna Chesnut explaining the functioning of the hurdy-gurdy. Photo by K. D. Wells.

Next up on the program was **David Evans**, who gave a wonderful presentation on "Edmund H. Wilkie—Slide Painter to the Royal Polytechnic." Wilkie was one of several lantern-slide painters who provided exquisitely detailed large-format slides for shows at the Royal Polytechnic. David showed some spectacular slides of "Nature's Wonderland," was well as some very unusual motion slides and dissolving sets. These were the most unusual and beautiful slides we saw during the entire convention.

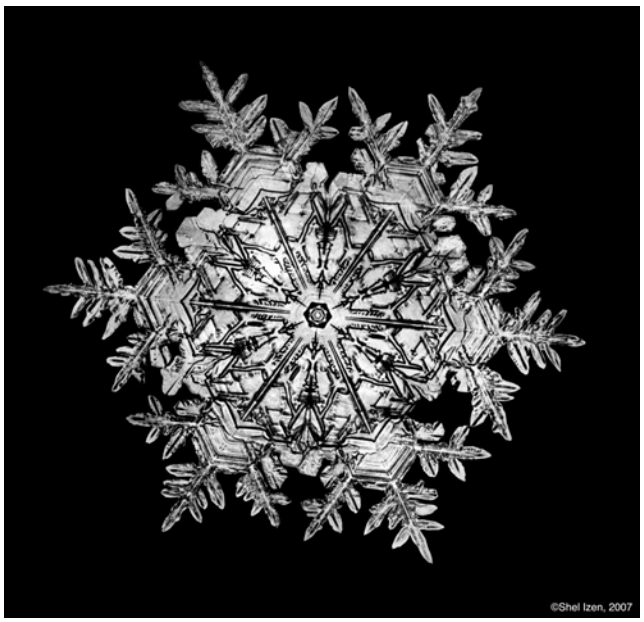
One of the spectacular "Nature's Wonderland" slides by Edmund H. Wilkie shown in the presentation by David Evans. Photo by John Potter.

On Friday afternoon came one of the high points of the convention, a trip to the Pythian Temple, an authentic Knights of Pythias Lodge Hall in downtown Tacoma. The interior of the building, and especially the main temple hall, looks much the way it did in the 19th century. Probably most society members have a set of slides from *The Story of Damon and Pythias* in their collections, since they are among the most common slides available (see front cover). **Dale Chesnut**, one of a small number of Lodge members who keep the building running, gave us a tour of the facilities. We were then treated to a lantern slide show of Damon and Pythias, with a script read by the Northwest Players (**Ralph Shape, Bob and Sue Hall, John Potter, and David Evans**) (see back cover). The show used original slides still owned by the Pythian Temple. What a treat to see one of the original venues in which lantern slides were shown!

A scene from Damon and Pythias on the ceiling of the main hall in the Pythian Temple. Photo by K. D. Wells.

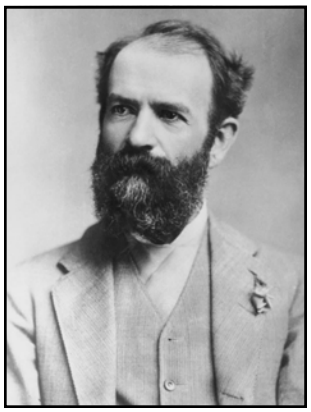
Inside the Pythian Temple. **Left:** Military rank uniform worn by Lodge members. **Right, top:** Ceiling at the front of the main hall, with an angel, a somewhat out-of-place Christian symbol for a story supposedly set in pre-Christian ancient Greece. **Right, bottom:** The front of the main hall. Photos by K. D. Wells.

After dinner on Friday, **Shel Izen** gave a wonderful show of snow crystal slides by Wilson Bentley, a Vermont farmer who spent much of his life taking the first microscopic photographs of actual snow crystals. The spectacular slides were accompanied by music. It made a great ending for an enjoyable day.



One of Wilson Bentley's snow crystal slides. Photo by Shel Izen.

On Saturday morning, **Dick Balzer** used an assortment of slides to tell the story of "Temperance According to Rev. A. Free." After telling the audience that he would depart from his usual repertoire of funny shows to give a serious research talk, he spun an entirely made-up story of temperance crusader Rev. A. Free that was so realistic that members of the audience offered to help find more information about the man. He added to the realism by using a lantern slide of 19th century robber baron Jay Gould as a portrait of Rev. Free.

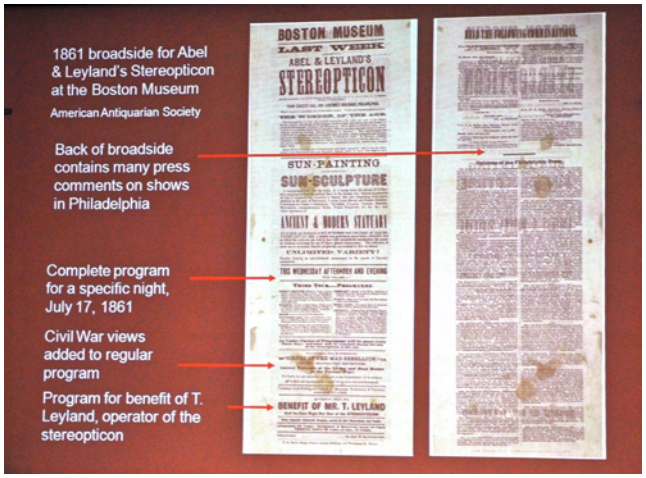


Jay Gould, railroad speculator and the quintessential "robber baron" of the Gilded Age, one of the richest men in America.

Next up on the program was **Gart Westerhout**, who gave one of the most unusual and original presentations of the convention, "A Japanese Christmas Carol." He began with a talk on Japanese Kanushibai Theater, or "picture card theater"—a succession of pictures shown in a cardboard theater proscenium. His talk included some discussion of other forms of visual entertainment in Japan, including peep shows, magic lanterns, box theaters, and puppets. He stated that over 25,000 people performed Kanushibai Theater and used the shows to sell candy. After the historical part of his presentation, we were entertained with an original Kanushibai Theater presentation of a Japanese version of Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol, entitled "The Greedy Tengu," with illustrations by Hiroshi Arai. The show was made even more entertaining by Gart's piano music and much interaction with the audience.

Top: Gart Westerhout in costume presenting "A Japanese Christmas Carol." Photo by K. D. Wells. **Bottom:** The Japanese version of Ebenezer Scrooge, counting his money. Photo by John Potter.

Continuing the historical theme, **Kentwood Wells** presented a talk on "Looking for John Fallon: Historical Detective Work and the Early Years of the Stereopticon in America," in which he described the research sources he used for his recently published *Gazette* article on John Fallon. Fallon was the first person to use the term "stereopticon" to describe a magic lantern used to project photographic slides, some of which were actually one half of a glass stereoview. Fallon was a dye chemist at Pacific Mills in Lawrence, Massachusetts and probably became interested in the stereopticon because of a general interest in science. Mostly it was exhibited by other people, as Fallon was tied up with his job in Lawrence. For most of these men, their association with the stereopticon was long forgotten later in their lives, although one, George Reed Cromwell, became a professional stereopticon lecturer (for the complete story, see the Fall 2011 issue of the *Gazette*). Much of the story of Fallon's stereopticon was pieced together through several years of research in online newspaper databases and archives such as the American Antiquarian Society.


1861 broadside for Abel & Leyland's Stereopticon at the Boston Museum
American Antiquarian Society
Back of broadside contains many press comments on shows in Philadelphia
Complete program for a specific night, July 17, 1861
Civil War views added to regular program
Program for benefit of T. Leyland, operator of the stereopticon
BOSTON MUSEUM
ABEL & LEYLAND'S
STEREOPTICON
SUN-PAINTING
SUN-SCULPTURE

Fallon's stereopticon was first exhibited in Philadelphia and Boston in 1861 under the name "Abel & Leyland's Stereopticon." Broadsides like this one from the American Antiquarian Society often contain much useful information on the programs presented by the stereopticon. Photo by John Potter.

The Saturday morning session finished up with a wonderful presentation by **Keith Lowe** on "Mr. Rabbit's Symphony of Nature." The show featured fantastic book illustrations by Charles Van Sandwyk, made into magic lantern slides. The style of illustration brought to mind some of the great children's book illustrators of the 19th century, such as Arthur Rackham. The show was enhanced by music provided by an ensemble of musicians.

Left: Keith Lowe, giving his presentation of Mr. Rabbit's Symphony of Nature" **(right)**. Photos by John Potter and K. D. Wells.

During the lunch break on Saturday, **Dick Balzer** gave a short presentation and lead and discussion on collecting magic lantern ephemera. Dick has one of the largest and most complete collections of printed magic lantern images in the world, ranging from advertising cards, box labels, tickets, broadsides, and rate 18th century prints. Some types of ephemera are still available to beginning collectors at reasonable prices.

Dick Balzer discusses opportunities for collecting magic lantern related ephemera during Saturday's lunch. Photo by K. D. Wells.

The second lunchtime discussion was by Jacob Riis historian Bruce Gronbeck, who described the collection of Jacob Riis lantern slides of the New York slums, now housed in the Museum of the City of New York. He described some of the history of these important slides and their current availability online.

Bruce Gronbeck. Photo by John Potter.

After lunch, **Ed Nolan** gave an interesting presentation on Asahel Curtis, a local Seattle area photographer who did much to document life in the region in the early 1900s. The brother of Edward S. Curtis, the famous Indian photographer, Asahel Curtis specialized in photographs of Mt. Rainier and Olympic National Parks, as well as the industrial and agricultural development of the Pacific Northwest. Many of his lantern slides are housed in the Washington State Museum in Tacoma .

Asahel Curtis photo of Mt. Rainier from Mirror Lake. National Park Service.

Next up was the always entertaining Evans family, with **Lesley Evans** reading the story of "The Tribute Band," while David showed a varied and unusual selection of slides with the biunial lantern.

One of an extremely varied selection of slides for "The Tribute Band," presented by Lesley Evans. Photo by John Potter.

The last item on the regular program was a very interesting presentation by **Margaret Bergh** on "Picture the Songs: Following the Tracks of 'Phoebe Snow;' or, Discovering the Identity of a Famous, Anonymous Song Slide Model." Marion Murray was an artists' and photographers' model who became the advertising icon of the Lackawanna Railroad, the first "Phoebe Snow" dressed all in white, who rode on the "Road of Anthracite" (1902-1907). Although "Phoebe Snow" was a household name at the time, "Marion (or 'Marie') Murray"—out of character—was not; so probably few people would have been aware that she also appeared nationally in many illustrated songs. A chance remark by Francis X. Bushman, who later became a matinee idol of the silent movies, provided the clue to Marion Murray's magic lantern career, as he recalled posing with her (among several other female models) for illustrated song slides (1908-1909).

Song slide models Marion Murray and Francis X. Bushman. Photo by John Potter.

The singing trio of Linda McShannock, Esther Morgan-Ellis, and Gart Westerhout performing illustrated song slides in Margaret Bergh's presentation. Linda, a specialist in historical textiles and costume, drew upon this clothing connection to introduce the "Marnanda Costume Resource Project" as a unique resource for the study of American costume in the era of the illustrated song. Photo by K. D. Wells.

After a very nice banquet at the Washington State History Museum, the formal convention presentations ended with another spectacular and varied evening magic lantern show by **Terry Borton** and **The American Magic Lantern Theater**. Photos by K. D. Wells and John Potter.

The last day of the convention was devoted to the business meeting, at which awards were presented, and the auction, with Dick Balzer and Larry Rakow acting as auctioneers. The summary of the business meeting and results of the auction are on the next pages.

Auctioneer Larry Rakow doing his best to bid up a toy magic lantern at the auction. Photo by K. D. Wells.

Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada
Business Meeting - 2012 Convention, Tacoma, WA
Sunday, June 24, 2012, Best Western Tacoma Dome Hotel

The following notes are provided by the Secretary-Treasurer to inform those members of the Society that were unable to attend the convention the discussion points that took place.

Call to Order and President Remarks – Debbie Borton

President Debbie Borton called the meeting to order at 10:13 am.

Debbie thanked the Northwest group for a fine convention.

President Borton read greetings from Dick and Sara Moore, expressing their regrets for being unable to attend and offering their best wishes for the 2012 convention.

Debbie thanked the new members and first time convention attendees for joining us in Tacoma.

Debbie announced there was one change to the published agenda: The Officer Elections would be moved to under Old Business. There were no other comments or changes to the agenda.

Vice-President Remarks – Larry Cederblom

Webpage: There are typically 400-500 hits per month on the Society website; 76% stay 30 seconds or less. These are similar statistics to those reported in 2010.

E-publication: Larry thanked the numerous contributors to the e-pub; active members make it a better publication. He plans to put old e-pubs on the Society website. It was noted hard copies of the e-pub are printed and mailed to those members that request it.

Secretary Report – Ron Easterday

2010 Business Meeting: A summary of the 2010 convention meeting notes was presented. The complete notes were issued to all members in the Summer 2010 Gazette. There were no comments or corrections; the past meeting notes were accepted as presented.

As an aside; Ron noted the convention notes from 2010 encourage forging connections with local universities. The Northwest group communicated with the local children's museum and Parks & Recreation department children's summer programs regarding a possible tie-in with the convention in Tacoma. While this did not come to fruition for the convention, relationships have been started and it looks like the Parks and Recreation department will host a activities program with members from the Northwest group this summer.

Membership Status

2012 to date: 135 total; 130 renewed; 6 new.
2011: 142 total; 127 renewed; 15 new.
2010: 130 total; 117 renewed; 13 new.
2009: 131 total; 121 renewed; 10 new.
2008: 139 total; 128 renewed; 11 new.

Ron thanked his wife Dorothy for her assistance with the Secretary-Treasurer duties, especially the Directory with member listing per state and the Member map poster.

Convention Registration Bag Gifts: Ron thanked Mike and Sharon Koch for the pens, Bob and Sue Hall for orchestrating the Almond Roca candy donation and Bob and Sue Hall for the slide boxes. Terry Borton noted the National Pen Company advertised a "projecting pen" that could project a company logo.

2014 Secretary-Treasurer: Ron noted while there are no term limits for the Secretary-Treasurer position, by 2014 he will have held this position for 6 years and it would be good for the Society for another member to become involved. Electronic files are in place and Ron is happy to provide advice to ease the transition to another member.

Treasurer Report –Ron Easterday

The Treasure's report was published in the e-pub and the Gazette. With the change in By-laws from a November 1 - October 31 fiscal year to Jan 1-Dec 31, the last report covered 14 months.

Available Funds:

October 31, 2010: $ 12,650.15 total, $ 11,545.38 operating, $1,104.77 research fund.

December 31, 2011: $ 13,900.79 total, $ 14,996.38 operating, $1,095.59 research fund.

All funds are held in traditional checking/savings accounts at Bank of America. The Society has three accounts: Checking with the operating funds, savings with the research award funds and a second checking for PayPal fund downloads for security. The challenge of late has been to avoid new bank service charges; to date this effort has been successful. The Society is solvent, with dues exceeding expenses. The Secretary/Treasurer does not recommend any change in dues at this time.

There were no comments or corrections; the Treasure's report was accepted as presented.

***Gazette* Report – Kentwood Wells**

Gazette Editor Kentwood Wells reported the Spring 2012 issue has just been completed and is ready to mail out, getting the *Gazette* back on schedule.

Kentwood thanked those that submitted articles and that he can always use more.

Printing cost remains very reasonable through the University of Connecticut print shop. Postage continues to rise. About 1/2 the cost of the *Gazette* is postage, 1/2 is printing; of the printing costs, 1/2 is for the four color pages.

San Diego State University (SDSU) has PDFs of past *Gazettes* on-line; Kentwood provides them one year in arrears. The pdf versions have the advantage that Kentwood provides pages in full color, while the printed version has just the 4 color pages.

Sue Hall noted the research articles are well received. Kentwood agreed, and noted the e-pub is the perfect companion to the *Gazette* as it covers current events and more time-sensitive announcements.

Research Committee Report – Kentwood Wells

Kentwood advised there have been no formal meetings of the Research Committee since the last convention.

Research Award Presentation: Kentwood announced the first Research Award for graduate student work to Esther Morgan-Ellis. Esther is a doctorate student at Yale, finishing her dissertation. She provided a research article *Nostalgia, Sentiment, and Cynicism in Images of "After the Ball"* that was published in the Summer 2011 Gazette and has actively participated in presentations at this convention with her wonderful singing voice. Esther is awarded a check for $500 with the thanks and congratulations of the Society. The Award presentation was continued later during the meeting with Esther's parents in attendance.

Terry Borton recommends the research committee contact Artemis Willis to communicate that the Society is officially looking to provide assistance to graduate students.

Old Business

Bylaws Revisions: Completed! Proposed bylaws issued to all members and approved in 2011 Ballots issued to members of record: 134 - Ballots returned by April 1, 2011: 47. For: 47; Against: 0; Other: 0.

Officer Elections 2012-2014: Past-president Sharon Koch announced the results of the officer election. Election results were unanimous.

President: Debbie Borton

Vice-president: Larry Cederblom

Secretary-Treasurer: Ron Easterday

2014 President: President Borton noted there are term limits for President and new nominees for President will need to be identified for the 2014 officer elections as 2012-2014 will be her last term.

New Business

Member Communication: President Borton noted that she has recently called many of the members that had not renewed by April 1 and realized how important personal communication with members is. She plans to divide the membership contacts among the officers and have the officers personally call each member at least once a year.

Website Improvements: As the Society is in solid financial shape with healthy reserves, the officers have decided to allocate up to $3,000 towards professional assistance to improve the website. Larry will be soliciting a committee to help formulate the purpose, goals and content. The website can be a significant resource for current members, the public and to attract potential new members.

New Business – 2014 Convention

President Borton opened the discussion by asking attendees to consider several parameters before discussing any specific locations or convention proposals:

Is there a preferred time of year? In the past, conventions have been held from mid-May to October.

Is there a preference for a location that has a local connection with the magic lantern, such as a local museum or research location nearby, or is an attractive, interesting location to visit preferable?

How important is the tradition of transitioning East Coast - Midwest - West Coast to the members?

Comments were made that an attractive “world known” location would attract more attendees and other comments that a connection with a collection or museum is important. It was noted there are many members on the East coast, and with 2010 in Bloomington and 2012 in Tacoma, it was time to return to the East Coast.

Debbie announced there have been three proposals for 2014:

New Orleans: Ron Easterday presented the proposal from Steve Barnes. Steve sends his regrets but has a family wedding this weekend and is unable to attend Tacoma.

Steve Barnes offered at the Bloomington convention to host a convention in New Orleans and has performed much research into costs and available spaces over the last year.

Lodging, meeting space and a convention dinner within walking distance of the French Quarter would be cost prohibitive compared to typical convention costs.

Steve recommends a Best Western hotel in Metairie, half way between downtown and the airport, where Steve has hosted conventions for the National Association of Watch and Clock collectors in the past.

All locations are air-conditioned. To obtain rates in Metairie that fit in our typical convention budget, available times are June, July, August, and December. Steve recommends before mid-August to avoid hurricane season.

Room costs would be comparable to Tacoma. A convention dinner could be hosted for $35/person. A preliminary look at the budget suggests registration fees would be in the same range as Tacoma, not including lunches. An optional event could be a plantation tour, bus tour of the Garden district, WW II museum, or riverboat cruise.

San Antonio: Margaret Bergh had advised that Jack Judson was interested in hosting the 2014 convention. Debbie has had phone conversations with Jack, but nothing concrete as of yet.

Boston area: A proposal was made for near the Boston area, perhaps 6-8 miles outside of town. Room charges would be in the range of $125/night, depending on time of year. This could include a visit to the Dick Balzer collection and an opportunity to hold some convention events there. There are local university connections. Flexibility in time of year would be important as lower rates could be had in October.

Discussion: Several comments were made in support for New Orleans, others for Boston, and also noting a visit to the Magic Lantern Castle in San Antonio may not always be possible. After much discussion, it was agreed best to accept a proposal for the east coast in 2014, keeping with the traditional rotation. A committee of Kentwood Wells, Dick Balzer and Larry Rakow was formed, with support offered by Lesley Evans, Ralph Shape and Larry Cederblom.

Award Presentations – Betty Peabody

Betty commented that there were many wonderful presentations and read some of the comments.

Leora Wood Wells Memorial Research Award: Gart Westhout for "*A Japanese Christmas Carol*".

Joe Koch Memorial Historical Award: The Williams Family: Jackie Fisher & Lynne Martin for "*Williams Family Traveling Picture Show*"

Honorable Damer E. Waddington Red Cabbage Award: Larry Cederblom/Group Northwest for "*Projecting from the Rear"*, Knights of Pythias tour and show, Keith Lowe and "*Mr. Rabbit's Symphony of Nature"*, David and Leslie Evans presentations and overall great convention teamwork.

Closing Remarks

Professor Optics announced that the second part of the Red Cabbage award (new in 2010) was being returned to the Borton's for the wonderful Saturday evening "*Victorian Magic Lantern Show*", their extensive research activities, and their sharing of knowledge with members and the public.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Auction Results

Item Number	Description	Sold For
001	Roll up retractable banner and stand - blue	$65
002	Roll up retractable banner and stand - purple	$65
003	Magic Lantern Print 19th Century	Unsold
004	Poster - The Dime Show	Unsold
005	Poster - M J Millious' Magic Show	Unsold
006	McAllister Magic Lantern Catalog 1888	$200
007	McAllister Magic Lantern Catalog 1889	Unsold
008	Chromotrope - Carpenter and Westley	$250
009	Chromotrope with 6 changing sets of lenses - in box	$450
010	Chromotrope - Changing Heads	$250
011	Slip Slide - Beating the drum for France ca. 1850	$275
012	Slip Slide - Monster appears France ca. 1850	$320
013	Nativity scene slide in Bakelite Church; beautiful in the dark!	$20
014	Box and book; Make Praxinoscope	$14
015	Reading with pictures of slides (no slides) Africa	$40
016	Reading with pictures of slides (no slides) India	$70
017	Keystone mailer with 7 original slides (1 cracked)	Unsold
018	1989 Calendar with Magic Lantern	$3
019	1913 Skin-nay! Print	$20
020	Original Reading for Around the World slides 1-61	$55
021	Wood Mailing Box for Song Slides & Lantern Slides	$12
022	Wood Mailing Box for Song Slides & Lantern Slides	$12
023	American Heritage June 1959 - Ripley article; Illustrated Song Slides	$10
024	American Heritage June 1959 - Ripley article; Illustrated Song Slides	$10
025	Civil War Lantern Broadside	$35
026	Civil War Lantern Broadside	$35
027	Civil War Lantern Broadside	$35
028	Globe Mailing w/original slides - 4 Advertising	Unsold
029	Venetian Scenic glass in case	$5
030	Dissolving Set - Jack and Me; Me and	$20
031	Stereopticon Sculpture Slide - Children carrying wine tub	$5
032	5 slide set of vagabonds - color; script available	$22
033	Our Flag - Beale, great-nephew of Betsy Ross	$20
034	Curtain Slide - color; opening or closing slide	$3
035	Slip Slide - Bird on Cannon	$30
036	Slip Slide - Tulips	$35
037	Slip Slide - Rooster Crowing	$50
038	Lever Slide - Man Hanging in Tree	$30
039	12 children's slides in original box	$20
040	12 children's slides in original box	$30
041	Encyclopedia of The Magic Lantern	$50
042	Optical Toy - Zoetrope/Phenakistoscope Kit	$15
043	Lantern Slide Border Negative in original envelope	$10
044	Film loops for Kinetoscope	$10
045	Film loops for Kinetoscope	$10
046	Film loops for Kinetoscope	Unsold
047	Film loops for Kinetoscope	Unsold
048	1883 Boys Own Paper Designs for Lantern	$11
049	American Heritage 1960 Stereoviews	$12
050	1989 Calendar with Magic Lantern	$2
051	1974 Horizon Article on Camera Obscura	$5
052	1908 Sears and Roebuck reprint	$18
053	1908 Sears and Roebuck reprint	$18
054	Lantern Slide Border Negative in original envelope	$10
055	2 Bob Bishop Books	$10
056	Children's Optical toy; book and kit	$15
057	Slides - 8 colored songs slides; Little Mother of Mine	$5
058	5 Coming Attraction Slides	$25
059	6 Song Slides - Plus 1 extra - Home Sweet	$40
060	Dissolving Set of 4; Mt. Vesuvius	$12
061	4 Song Slides - Don't Bring Me Posies; 1	$15
062	Film Projector, works perfect; Joseph Boggs Beale filmstrip	$60
063	Slip Slide - Pirate Frightens Lady	$18
064	Slip Slide - Waiter Trips over Boy	$20
065	Slip Slide - Cork Blows out of Bottle	Unsold
066	Slip Slide - Sack Falls on Man	$10

067	Slip Slide - Rat Catcher	Unsold
068	20 Asahel Curtis Slides in Box	$200
069	12 Wooden Slide Carries for 3 1/4 x 4 inch slides	$50
070	1857 Letter Inquiring about purchasing a Magic Lantern	$50
071	6 1/4 x 3 1/4 Announcement Slides	$30
072	Slip Slide - Good Bye; Black Man	$45
073	Very Rare Venus Rising w/ Unique Mechanism	$300
074	Double Slip Slide - Rat Catcher	$50
075	3 Illustrated Song Slides; City Street with Policeman	$12
076	Book - The History of Movie Making; Book with Overlays, flaps & movable pieces	$5
077	Zoetrope - Optical Toy	$5
078	Book - Alice in Wonderland; Illustrated with Lantern Slides	$16
079	5 3 1/4 x 3 1/4 Announcement slides	$100
080	Zilograph in broken box with several articulated figures & screen	$25
081	Childs Lantern with original box & illuminate "S. W. C. Exhibition" Model	$50
082	5 Slide Set; Handpainted	$60
083	African-American song slide set (13 of ?) Stephen Foster "Nelly was a Lady"	$65
084	Chromotrope	$85
085	2 Slip Slides & 4 Wood Frame Slides - All with problems	$20
086	Group of Workstel Effect Slides	$85
087	Group of Workstel Effect Slides	$20
088	Double Slip Slide	$65
089	Early "Society for Visual Education" firm projector	$5
090	6 Christie's Optical Toy Auction Catalogs	$35
091	Book; C V Sandwyk Mr. Rabbit's Christmas; tipped in plates; hand printed; hand sewn in North Vancouver	Unsold
092	Song Slide Print - Baseball	$12
093	Song Slide Print - Roses	$20

Exhibit of Bob Dornan's magic lantern collection. Photo by John Potter.

Chihuly Bridge of Glass, Tacoma, Washington.

Photos by K. D.. Wells.

Top: The Northwest Players presenting *The Story of Damon and Pythias* in the main hall of the Pythian Temple in Tacoma, Washington at the 2012 Magic Lantern Society convention. Photo by K. D. Wells.

Bottom: The main hall of the Pythian Temple. The lantern projection room is at upper right. Photo by K. D. Wells.

Front Cover: Lantern slide from *The Story of Damon and Pythias*. Wells collection.